

Remarks

Election/Restrictions

Examiner Miller is correct that elected Species 3 is directed to Fig. 13. Attorney for applicants apologizes for any confusion resulting from an erroneous reference to Fig. 14.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 4 have been amended in order to clarify terminology referring to the native valve.

102 Rejection

Claims 1 and 3-7 were rejected on Gabbay (US 2003/0040792A1). Claim 5 has now been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended in order to restrict the claimed anchoring structure to one having a single flared inflow rim, three flexible vertical posts, the three flexible vertical posts each having a single diamond-shaped element.

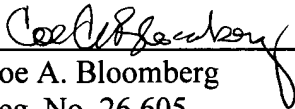
To the extent that Attachment 1 of the Office Action may be said to have rims, vertical posts and diamond shaped elements, it has far more such elements than disclosed and now claimed by applicants. Thus Gabby discloses a design that allow for contact between the posts and the replacement valve (see Fig. 6B) and also encumbers vessel springs within the native sinus.

Allowance of claims 1, 3-4 and 6-7 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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